

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
EUGENE DISTRICT OFFICE

1791A
CE-04-01

**Reconstruction of Timber Road No. 14-2-16
Upper Willamette Resource Area
T14S, R2W, Secs. 16 and 21**

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

Background: The Eugene District Resource Management Plan (June, 1995), includes maintenance of roads and culverts to meet management objectives. The purpose of this is to meet the needs of other resource programs and Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives. This project was proposed by the Linn County Administrative Officer to be considered for funding by the Resource Advisory Committee. A recent road inventory in the Courtney Creek Watershed identified Timber Road as deficient in surfacing and maintenance and as a result had a weight limit imposed by Linn County. This road is a main access route from Shotgun Creek to Brownsville (proposed BLM Back Country By Way) and provides access to public and private timber lands. The project would help maintain ongoing use by the general public, logging, and agricultural interests. The BLM controls 0.17 miles of the road (Exclusive Easements RE-E-516 and RE-E-517) and 0.4 miles is public road. The reconstruction and surfacing of 0.57 miles of road are discretionary actions.

Proposed Action: The proposed action is the reconstruction of Timber Road, which is currently weight limited due to the poor surface condition of the roadway. The reconstruction work includes widening the existing road to 22 feet of paved surface with four foot graveled shoulders, road side ditches and other drainage accommodations as needed. The total length of the project is approximately 0.57 miles all on private land of which 0.17 miles is on BLM controlled road easements.

All in stream work would be between June 1 and September 30. The Best Management Practices, as described in the Eugene District Record of Decision/Resource Management Plan, would be utilized.

Decision

The proposed action described above is approved to be carried out during calendar, 2004 and/or 2005.

Rationale

The Proposed Action qualifies as a categorical exclusion as described in the Departmental Manual (516 DM 6, Appendix 5-G (2), and does not meet any of the exception criteria. The proposed action is in conformance with the *"Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl"* (April 1994), and the *"Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan"* (May 1995).

Prepared by: Michael Sabin Date: 10/16/03

Approved by:
Upper Willamette Area Manager: Emily Rice Date: 10/22/03

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CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW
Exception Criteria Review Checklist

Proposed Action: Reconstruction and surfacing on Timber Road; Rd. No. 14-2-16 located in T. 14 S., R. 2 W., Sections 16 and 21.

Review the proposed action against each of the ten criteria listed below. If the project meets one or more of the criteria, it is an exception from categorical exclusion and MUST be analyzed in an EA or EIS. To qualify as a Categorical Exclusion the proposed action may not meet any of the criteria. If the criterion does not apply, indicate "Not Applicable." Any mitigation measures (such as contract stipulations or terms and conditions on permits) necessary to ensure that the proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion should be identified at the bottom of the page.

<u>Exception Criteria</u>		<u>Comments</u>
1.	Have significant adverse effects on public health or safety	No
2.	Have adverse effects on unique resources (i.e., parks, recreation, refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, wetlands, flood plains, etc.)	No
3.	Have highly controversial environmental effects	No
4.	Have highly uncertain environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks	No
5.	Establish a precedent that could result in significant impacts	No
6.	Be directly related to other actions having cumulatively significant effects	No
7.	Have adverse effects on cultural or historical resources	No
8.	Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed as threatened or endangered or have adverse effect on designated critical habitat for these species.	No
9.	Require compliance with E.O. 11988 (flood plain management), E.O. 11990 (protection of wetlands), or the Fish & Wildlife Coordination Act	No
10.	Threaten to violate Federal, State, Local or Tribal law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment	No

Mitigation measures needed to qualify as CE:

1. The unsuitable fill or waste material sites will be approved by the Linn County Project Supervisor and mulched with straw after construction work is completed and prior to fall rains to reduce erosion.
2. During construction work in the stream channels (if any), the streams will be diverted using pumps and hoses or pipes. This procedure should maintain water quality.
3. In-water work period is from June 1 to September 30.

Reviewed By: C. Hardenbrook

Date: 10/22/03

Above mitigation measures have been adopted and will be implemented.

Area Manager: Emily Rice

Date: 10/22/03

**ACS OBJECTIVES REVIEW
FOR
CATEGORY EXCLUSIONS**

Review the proposed action against each of the objectives. If the answer is no for any of the objectives, the proposed action needs to be reevaluated or mitigation measures developed.

ACS OBJECTIVES	yes or no
1. Maintain and restore the distribution, diversity, and complexity of watershed and landscape-scale features to ensure protection of the aquatic systems to which species, populations, and communities are uniquely adapted.	YES
2. Maintain and restore spatial and temporal connectivity within and between watersheds. Lateral, longitudinal, and drainage network connections include flood plains, wetlands, upslope areas, headwater tributaries, and intact refugia. These lineages must provide chemically and physically unobstructed routes to areas critical for fulfilling life history requirements of aquatic and riparian-dependent species.	YES
3. Maintain and restore the physical integrity of the aquatic system, including shorelines, banks, and bottom configurations.	YES
4. Maintain and restore water quality necessary to support healthy riparian, aquatic, and wetland ecosystems. Water quality must remain in the range that maintains the biological, physical, and chemical integrity of the system and benefits survival, growth, reproduction, and migration of individuals composing aquatic and riparian communities.	YES
5. Maintain and restore the sediment regime under which an aquatic ecosystem evolved. Elements of the sediment regime include the timing, volume, rate, and character of sediment input, storage, and transport.	YES
6. Maintain and restore in stream flows sufficient to create and sustain riparian, aquatic, and wetland habitats and to retain patterns of sediment, nutrient, and wood routing (i.e., movement of woody debris through the aquatic system). The timing, magnitude, duration, and spatial distribution of peak, high, and low flows must be protected.	YES
7. Maintain and restore the timing, variability, and duration of flood plain inundation and water table elevation in meadows and wetlands.	YES
8. Maintain and restore the species composition and structural diversity of plant communities in riparian zones and wetlands to provide adequate summer and winter thermal regulation, nutrient filtering, appropriate rates of surface erosion, bank erosion, and channel migration, and to supply amounts and distributions of coarse woody debris sufficient to sustain physical complexity and stability.	YES
9. Maintain and restore habitat to support well-distributed populations of native plant, invertebrate, and vertebrate riparian-dependent species.	YES

CE SIGNATURE PAGE

Specialists	Signature/date
Cultural Resource	Michael D. Southard 10/16/03
Wildlife Biologist	Paula Larson 10/16/03
Fisheries Biologist	Mark D-Aversa 10/16/03
Hydrologist	Kris Ward 10/17/03
Soil Scientist	R. Wiedenbeck 10/16/03
Botanist	Cheshire Mayrsohn 10/20/03